

Claims

WE CLAIM:

1. A computer program product encoding a computer program for executing on a computer system a computer process for generating a customized library for execution of an application by a client, the client including one or more client-loaded types, the computer process comprising:

5 identifying one or more application-referenced types on which the application depends for execution;

identifying one or more client-needed types required by the client to execute the application, based on the application-referenced types and the client-loaded types; and

generating the customized library including the one or more client-needed types.

2. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of generating a customized library comprises:

inserting only client-needed types into the customized library.

3. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of generating a customized library comprises:

inserting all client-needed types and all client-loaded types into the customized library.

4. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of identifying one or more application-referenced types comprises:

identifying a version identifier of at least one of an application-referenced type and a client-needed type.

5. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein operation of generating a customized library comprises:

excluding from the customized library one or more non-identified types, each non-identified type being already loaded on the client.

6. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein operation of generating a customized library comprises:

excluding from the customized library one or more non-identified types, each non-identified type not being referenced by the application.

7. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of identifying one or more application-referenced types comprises:

examining the application to identify one or more type references, each type reference being associated with an application-referenced type; and

5 generating a dependency list identifying the one or more application-referenced types, based on the one or more type references.

8. The computer program product of claim 7 wherein the operation of generating a dependency list comprises:

recursively examining an application-referenced type to identify one or more additional type references referenced by the application-referenced type; and

5 adding the one or more additional type references to the dependency list.

9. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of identifying one or more client-needed types comprises:

identifying the one or more client-loaded types; and

generating a client composite list to identify the one or more client-needed types, the one
5 or more client-needed types including the one or more application-referenced types not loaded on the client.

10. The computer program product of claim 9 wherein the operation of generating a client composite list comprises:

determining whether a new version of an application-referenced type is needed by the client, based on a versioning policy.

11. The computer program product of claim 9 wherein the operation of identifying one or more client-loaded types comprises:

accessing a client catalog specifying the one or more client-loaded types loaded on the client; and

5 examining the client catalog to identify the one or more client-loaded types.

12. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of identifying one or more client-needed types comprises:

identifying the one or more client-loaded types by receiving a list of the client-loaded types from the client; and

5 evaluating the client-loaded types against the application-referenced types to identify the client-needed types.

13. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of identifying one or more client-needed types comprises:

receiving a client composite list specifying the one or more application-referenced types not loaded on the client.

14. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of generating a customized library comprises:

creating a new library containing no types; and

5 adding each of the one or more client-needed types to the new library to provide the customized library.

15. The computer program product of claim 14 wherein the adding operation comprises:

adding one or more global data fields of each client-needed type to the new library.

16. The computer program product of claim 14 wherein the adding operation comprises:

adding a method signature corresponding to a method of each client-needed type to the new library; and

adding a code body associated with the method of each client-needed type to the new

5 library.

17. The computer program product of claim 16 wherein the operation of adding a method signature comprises:

adding to the new library metadata describing the method.

18. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein an application-referenced type includes a class.

19. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein an application-referenced type includes at least one of a method, a class, a data field, and a resource.

20. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein a client-loaded type includes at least one of a method, a class, a data field, and a resource.

21. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the computer process further comprises:

receiving a device profile specifying a characteristic of the client; and

excluding an attribute from the customized library, if the attribute is incompatible with

5 the characteristic of the client.

22. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein the computer process further comprises:

receiving a device profile specifying a characteristic of the client;

identifying more than one client-needed type candidate, based on the client-needed types

- 5 identified in the operation of identifying one or more client-needed types; and

selecting one of the client-needed type candidates based on the characteristic identified in the device profile to provide one of the client needed types.

24. A customized library management system for managing a customized class library,
the system comprising:

an application server module receiving an application request and transmitting a
requested application to a client; and

5 a customized library generator creating a customized library and sending the customized
library to the client, the customized library including one or more client-needed types.

25. The customized library management system of claim 24 wherein the customized
library generator further excludes from the customized library one or more application-referenced
types already loaded on the client.

26. A customized library management system for receiving a customized library associated with an application, the system comprising:

- a catalog identifying one or more client-loaded types that are loaded in a client;
- a filter module comparing the catalog to a list of one more application-referenced types
- 5 and generating a client composite list to identify one or more client-needed types; and
- a client receipt module for receiving the customized library including the one or more client-needed types.

27. The customized library management system of claim 26 further comprising:

- a client request module requesting the application from a server.

28. The customized library management system of claim 26 wherein the client receipt module further receives the application from a server in association with the customized library.

29. The customized library management system of claim 26 wherein the catalog comprises:

- an application identifier associated with the application loaded on the client.

30. The customized library management system of claim 26 wherein the catalog further comprises:

- dependency information identifying a client-loaded type referenced by the application.

31. The customized library management system of claim 26 wherein the catalog further comprises:

- an install point indicator associated with the application.

32. The customized library management system of claim 26 wherein the catalog comprises:

a type identifier associated with a client-loaded type; and

dependency information associated with the type identifier and identifying one or more

5 client-loaded applications referencing the client-loaded type.

33. The customized library management system of claim 26 wherein the catalog comprises:

dependency information recording a reference count of one or more applications
referencing the client-loaded type.

34. A computer program product encoding a computer program for executing on a computer system a computer process for creating a customized library, the computer process comprising:

accessing a class library store;

identifying one or more needed classes;

creating an empty library;

extracting the one or more needed classes from the class library store; and

adding the one or more needed classes to the empty library to generate the customized library.

35. The computer program product of claim 34 wherein the identifying operation comprises:

receiving a composite list specifying the needed classes.

36. The computer program product of claim 34 wherein the adding operation comprises:

adding one or more global data fields of each needed class to the empty library, the global data fields being extracted from the class library store in the extracting operation.

37. The computer program product of claim 34 wherein the adding operation comprises:

adding a method signature corresponding to a method of each needed class to the empty library, the method signature being extracted from the class library store in the extracting operation; and

adding a code body associated with the method of each needed class to the empty library, the code body being extracted from the class library store in the extracting operation.

38. The computer program product of claim 37 wherein the operation of adding a method signature comprises:

adding to the empty library metadata describing the method, the metadata being extracted from the class library store in the extracting operation.

39. The computer program product of claim 34 wherein the computer process further comprises:

identifying one or more needed methods associated with each needed class.

40. The computer program product of claim 34 wherein the computer process further comprises:

identifying one or more needed data fields associated with each needed class.

41. A method of creating a customized library, the method comprising:

accessing a class library store;

identifying one or more needed classes;

creating an empty library;

5 extracting the one or more needed classes from the class library store; and

adding the one or more needed classes to the empty library to generate the customized library.